

February 27, 1971

SPEAKER: Does anybody else have any objection to that manner of procedure. If not, LB 76, we will take it up immediately. This is Senator Schmit's bill. The clerk will read.

CLERK: LB 76. Read title. There are lengthy amendments, Mr. President, by Senator Burbach's Revenue Committee.

SPEAKER: Senator Burbach, will you explain the amendments?

SENATOR BURBACH: The amendment appears rather lengthy. It is not much of a change. In the case of a handle when the tax is increased 1%, then the amendment would provide that the take would go from 14 to 15 to compensate for that 1% additional tax, and even though it is lengthy, that is the only change in the amendment. The other amendment is to add the Emergency Clause.

SPEAKER: Are there any other amendments, Senator Burbach or is that all of them. Senator Richendifer.

SENATOR RICHENDIFER: Would you yield to a question, Senator Burbach? Approximately how much money will this raise and is it earmarked for any one specific purpose?

SENATOR BURBACH: I can't tell you the exact amount. It'd be several million dollars in the entire season and it is not earmarked for any specific purpose. It goes into the state General Fund.

SPEAKER: Any further questions of Senator Burbach on the amendments? Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the amendments vote aye. Those opposed say no. The amendments are adopted. Now, Senator Schmit, what will you do with the bill?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I move the bill be advanced to E & R as amended. I think the bill has been explained adequately by Senator Burbach. As he explained, there was no objection to the bill at the public hearing. The bill should raise an additional three quarters of a million dollars and I think it is a good bill and deserves to be passed and expedited. I hope that the body votes that way.

SPEAKER: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: I'd like to ask Senator Schmit a question.

SPEAKER: Senator Schmit, do you yield?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Certainly.

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Schmit, I do not favor this, but a group of people have asked me why, if we want to raise more money for the state of Nebraska, don't we conduct racing on Sunday afternoon and close the tracks down on Tuesday. This will leave them the same amount of racing days, but we have football games, we have baseball games, we have every other conceivable kind of sports on which we tax and on which we raise money and in which the people indulge today and while I realize this may go against the grain of a lot of people and I, probably, would not vote for it. But have you thought about doing this as a means of raising money.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Keyes, I don't think that's my prerogative. I think the Racing Commission and the cooperation of the Thoroughbred Racing Association establishes the dates on which racing shall be held and I don't think that's the prerogative of the Legislature and I don't think we should, probably, concern ourselves with that.

SENATOR KEYES: Thank you.

SPEAKER: Is there further discussion? There is a memo on the